About this release

This release by Information Services Division provides a quarterly update of immunisation uptake rates for children in Scotland at 12 months, 24 months, five years and six years of age, by NHS Board and local authority.

Vaccination programmes for children in Scotland aim to protect the individual child from many serious infectious diseases and prevent the spread of disease within the wider population.

Main Points

- Uptake rates by 12 months of age remain above 95% for complete primary courses of immunisation of Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV), MenB vaccine, and the six-in-one vaccine, which protects against; diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), polio, Haemophilus (Hib) and Hepatitis B.
- Uptake of the complete two dose course of rotavirus vaccine by 12 months of age dropped from 93.5% in the previous quarter to 92.4%.
- Uptake rates of the Hib/MenC and PCV booster vaccines by 24 months were similar to rates in recent quarters, with both rates at 95.0%.
- The national target is for 95% uptake of one dose of the MMR vaccine by five years of age, with a supplementary measure at 24 months. Uptake of one dose of MMR vaccine was 94.3% by 24 months of age and 97.0% by five years of age. These rates are similar to rates in recent quarters. Uptake rates of one dose of MMR by five years have remained above the 95% target since 2009.

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**Uptake of the MMR vaccine by 24 months and 5 years of age, by quarter**

Note: the y-axis has been restricted

1. World Health Organization (WHO) recommends 95% of children should be immunised with the MMR vaccine.
Background

As a public health measure, immunisations are very effective in reducing the burden of disease. The European Region of the World Health Organization (WHO) recommends that on a national basis at least 95% of children are immunised against diseases preventable by immunisation and targeted for elimination or control. These include diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, polio, Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib), measles, mumps and rubella. In Scotland a target of 95% uptake of one dose of the Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccine by five years of age (with a supplementary measure at 24 months) was introduced in 2006 to focus efforts on reducing the number of susceptible children entering primary school.

The six-in-one vaccine, which also protects against Hepatitis B, replaced the five-in-one vaccine from 1 October 2017.

Please see News and Updates section of our website for more details.

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Further Information

The data from this publication is available to download from our web page.

We also make available background metadata and information on our pre-release access.

Our annual report on childhood immunisation uptake rates in Scotland was published in March. This report provides comprehensive commentary on immunisation including an outline of the UK childhood immunisation schedule, statistics by calendar year and an explanation of trends in uptake rates.

For more information on Immunisations see the Immunisation section of our website. For related topics, please see the Child Health pages.

The next release of this publication will be in March 2019.

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ISD and Official Statistics

Information Services Division (ISD) is the principal and authoritative source of statistics on health and care services in Scotland. ISD is designated by legislation as a producer of ‘Official Statistics’. Our official statistics publications are produced to a high professional standard and comply with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. Further information about our statistics.